HE NEVER SAID IT WOULD BE EASY

Living Bold in Tough Times - Part 4

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**1 Peter 2:19-20 (NIV)**   
For it is commendable if a man bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because he is conscious of God. But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God.

**2 Timothy 2:3 (NIV)**   
Endure hardship with us like a good soldier of Christ Jesus.

THREE IMPORTANT REASONS TO ENDURE SUFFERING

1. **Enduring Suffering Pleases God**

**1 Peter 2:19-20 (NIV)**   
For it is commendable if a man bears up under the pain of unjust suffering because he is conscious of God. But how is it to your credit if you receive a beating for doing wrong and endure it? But if you suffer for doing good and you endure it, this is commendable before God.

2. **Enduring Suffering Fulfills Your Calling**

**1 Peter 2:21 (NIV)**   
To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

**1 Peter 3:14 (NIV)**   
But even if you should suffer for what is right, you are blessed. "Do not fear what they fear; do not be frightened."

**1 Peter 4:1 (NIV)**   
1 Therefore, since Christ suffered in his body, arm yourselves also with the same attitude, because he who has suffered in his body is done with sin.

**1 Peter 4:12 (NIV)**   
Dear friends, do not be surprised at the painful trial you are suffering, as though something strange were happening to you.

3. **Enduring Suffering Is A Way Of Being Like Jesus**

**1 Peter 2:21 (NIV)**   
To this you were called, because Christ suffered for you, leaving you an example, that you should follow in his steps.

**1 Peter 2:22 (NIV)**   
"He committed no sin, and no deceit was found in his mouth."

* **No Deceit**
* **No Insults**
* **No Threats**

**1 Peter 2:15 (NIV)**   
For it is God's will that by doing good you should silence the ignorant talk of foolish men.